

Historical Society of Palm Desert

P. O. Box 77, Palm Desert, CA 92261 NEWSLETTER

May, 1990.

Our Historical Society has been working steadily during the past year in connection with the Riverside County Historic Resources Survey, of which there are 19 zones. The area assigned to the PDHS is Zone 16, encompassing: Rancho Mirage, Palm Desert, Indian Wells, La Quinta, Thousand Palms.

We were the primary group to go ahead with this survey and therefore the first to be completed. Over 80 buildings and/or sites have been indicated as being of historical importance, all of which have been approved by the County Historic Commission, and the program is still continuing. Of this total number, they are located . .

Rancho Mirage . . .	18
Palm Desert . . .	20
Indian Wells . . .	13
La Quinta . . .	16
Thousand Palms . . .	16

The next step will be nomination to State level, with a few being nominated to the National Registry.

Many hours have been expended by Sites Chairman Rheo Lawman, assisted by Acting President Anne Carpenter and numerous other members of the Historical Society. Our thanks to all.



JANUARY 23, 1982 will be opening day of the exhibit and slide tape show on the history of the Cove Communities. This will be at the College of the Desert Library. Henry Burnett, Coordinator of Learning Resources, is cooperating with the Historical Society in presenting this in the 20th year of the College. Keep this date open and watch for a further announcement from our president, John Kennedy.



We are considering changing the name of the Society to reflect the other communities which we now serve, perhaps using the terminology "Cove Communities." We would

Following the accomplishments of the past two years, we are now ready to establish an archive and historical museum. We are indeed fortunate that an intern from UCR Historical Resources Management Program, Melinda Knapp will be joining us Oct. 1st to provide the professional help required. Ms. Knapp, before joining the History Department at UCR, worked as a professional curator. Her experience has included working as a history intern at Sutter's Fort State Historic Park in Sacramento; a research assistant at the Oakland Museum in Oakland; National Museum Act intern at the California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park; history intern for the California Department of Parks & Recreation, Sacramento; Curator of Art Objects under the same program. Ms. Knapp will be training volunteers as one part of this program, and we know you will wish to meet her and become a part of this active program.



LIFE MEMBERSHIP available. To finance the establishment and continuation of the museum and archives, we have established a LIFE MEMBERSHIP which is available for a donation of \$1000.00 (or more). We are encouraging your participation as a life member. Same will entitle you to the usual benefits of the association, such as information, news letters and appropriate recognition once the museum has been established in the forthcoming Hahn Center. A space at the bottom of this newsletter is provided for your completion and return with check made out to the Historical Society.

With the establishment of the LIFE MEMBERSHIP, we have decided to defer the revision of the membership roster, in order that those persons might be included and so identified.



IN MEMORIAM

Sue Ball
Cyria Henderson



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- FOUNDER'S DAY - The awards ceremony will be held at Shadow Mountain Resort on Tuesday, May 15th, at 4:00 p.m. Marian Henderson will present the "Cliff Henderson Founder's Day Award". A plaque to commemorate Palm Desert's "First Tennis Court" will be installed. All members are urged to attend.
- BUILDING STATUS - Our Board has spent countless hours discussing ideas and needs to convert the old fire station into a museum. We have left no plan go astray in our endeavor to make the building meet public use standards; all our study and research only convinced us it was too costly a project for this organization. Due to lack of funds negotiation began with our City to accept and repair the building; and official transfer to the City was accomplished in April, 1990.
- SECURITY - The "break-in" recently reported in the newspaper occurred in December, 1989. Prior to this the Sheriff's office was requested and had increased their patrols. The rear of the building was completely boarded up following the "break-in". San Val Security Company of Palm Desert is now installing their system.
- FUTURE - We have recently increased our Board with several new chairmen. We have asked that these new members be present at the FOUNDER'S DAY meeting. With this additional assistance, we hope to go forward with many new projects, especially in conversion of the interior of the building for public use.
- MEMORABILIA - You will be happy to learn that although somewhat disturbed, the historical papers stored in the building at the time of the December "break-in" were "unharmd". However, the culprits did damage several pieces of office equipment. All of which has "saddled" us with a big "cleanup".
- DUES - In the interest of historic preservation we do appreciate receiving at an early date the annual dues; which are: Individual \$10, Family \$15, Contributing \$25, Sustaining \$100, Patron \$250; LIFE MEMBER \$1,000.

NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____